

**Committee: House Judiciary Committee** 

Bill Number: HB 403

Title: Immigration Enforcement – Public Schools, Hospitals, and Courthouses -

**Policies** 

Date: February 11, 2020

**Position:** Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports House Bill 403 – Immigration Enforcement – Public Schools, Hospitals, and Courthouses – Policies. This bill would require the Attorney General to establish guidelines for public schools, hospitals, and courthouses to limit immigration enforcement on the premises, in a manner allowed by state and federal and law.

No individual should be afraid to go to the hospital because of their immigration status or the status of a family member. This fear can prevent or delay individuals from obtaining care; and this clearly can have a negative effect on the health outcomes of an individual as well as whole communities. This legislation will ensure that there are policies in place that keep people safe when they are getting needed health care. We need to ensure that our communities view hospitals as places of care, rather than places of risk.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at <a href="mailto:relliott@policypartners.net">relliott@policypartners.net</a> or (443) 926-3443.